Reply to Official Action of May 5, 2004

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 25, line 18 to page 26, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The photosensitive group or the photosensitive compound capable of eliminating the ion-exchange group upon irradiation with an energy beam represents a group or a compound having an ion-exchange group before irradiation with the energy beam and having the ionexchange group released therefrom or converted into a hydrophobic group upon irradiation with the energy beam. To be more specific, the particular photosensitive group or photosensitive compound noted above includes, for example, a group or a compound having a carboxyl group subjected to a decarboxylation reaction so as to be decomposed. It is desirable for the group or the compound having a carboxyl group to be a group or a compound in which the decarboxylation reaction tends to be promoted by a basic compound. The particular group or compound includes, for example, a group or a compound having an electron attractive group or an unsaturated bond in the \Box or \Box position α - or β -position of the carboxyl group. It is desirable for the electron attractive group to be a carboxyl group, a cyano group, a nitro group, aryl group, a carbonyl group or a halogen atom.

Please replace the paragraph at page 26, lines 13-22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The compound having a carboxyl group includes, for example, \Box -cyano α -cyano carboxylic acid derivative, \Box -nitro α -nitro carboxylic acid derivative, \Box -phenyl carboxylic acid derivative, \Box , \Box -olefin α , β , γ -olefin carboxylic acid derivative, and an indene carboxylic acid derivative. In the case of using a photo base generating agent as a basic

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compound, a base is generated upon irradiation with an energy beam, and the carboxyl group is decarboxylated by the function of the generated base so as to be eliminated.